

Marshfield Conservation Commission
167th Meeting
5 October, 2022 at Old Schoolhouse
MINUTES

Members Present: Luke Boushee, Steve Fiske, Bradley Materick, Anne Miller, Sarah Norton, Bob Popp, and Annie Reed

Minutes: Approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: No Activity

Administrative Details:

- Bradley now has keys to the meeting room & equipment doors
- Bradley investigated alternatives to Zoom, but wants to try them out before utilizing any of them

Stranahan Invasives Removal:

- Question **whether Ed has** obtained weed wrenches?
- Need to schedule an invasives day for StranahanTF and possibly other places.
- **Bradley** will contact Ed re. invasive control at STF and coordination with the Stranahan Stewardship Committee

Discussion of Other Places for invasive removal.

- Beaver Meadow infested w/ honeysuckle
- The Old Depot infested w/ honeysuckle
- Old Schoolhouse and Martin Covered Bridge both w/ knotweed
- Suggestion to focus on one area since there will be need for repeated visits. If leave alone, invasives will likely return
- Members agreed to focus on STF.

Watershed Grant

- Steve and other volunteers sampled all streams in two days
- They also sorted samples and sent to taxonomist to ID
- Dominance is by mayfly, stone fly & caddis flies; indicates healthy streams.
- Most stream had ca 60 taxa
- Potential new state mayfly record in Nasmith Brk. Taxonomist has sent to a mayfly expert to verify.
- Will provide data to VT DEC who will provide some analysis. We then need to complete report for grant and then possibly use data set to upgrade stream classification.

Friends of the Winooski:

- Started program called StreamWise. If private landowners meet vegetation criteria for shading, they receive a plaque.

Culvert Replacement:

- FoW and NRCS have identified some culverts with steep drops preventing fish passage.
- Steve Ok with small streams but has concerns w/ Nasmith Brk since lower reach has brown & rainbow trout and the culvert prevents them from moving upstream and competing with native brook trout upstream.
- Steve will circle back with FoW and Select Bd.

Pollinator Garden:

- Will reseed in spring with native seeds but will not till the buckwheat.

Natural Resource Inventory

- Have sent out some letter, but no response as yet.
- Drew Mt Assoc is considering allowing access following a discussion w/ Brett.

Knotweed at Gravel Pit:

- We have permission from SB and Agriculture Agency says we can use Class C herbicides on town land.
- Members questioned whether is worth the effort if the town is still putting material into the gravel pit so knotweed is likely to be continually reintroduced.
- Members decided to forgo the project and focus on STF
- **Bob** will contact Tovar.

Martin Covered Bridge Management Plan

- Plan expired in 2021 so needs to be revised
- We need to approach SB to get approval to revise the plan
- Need to approach Rich Phillips for add'l information & possibly Mike Zahner
- Need to check easement language w/ VLT &/or Town Clerk
- Discuss w/ SB this winter probably at 15 Nov meeting
- **Bradley** will pursue contacting folks and collating information prior to next mtg.

Trail Camera is available for use. **Contact Bradley.**

New Business:

- Stranahan Work Day on 22 Oct. Meet at 9
- AVCC Annual Meeting on 15 Oct

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 11 October, 2022

Approved on: 2 November, 2022